

Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 OES-03

FEA-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SAL-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 /118 W

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P 270950Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5717

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1487

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, KS

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: INFORMATION ON ROKG

REF: STATE 037591

1. EMBASSY MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS OFFICER IS JOHN E. KELLEY.

2. FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE NUMBERED TO COINCIDE
WITH QUESTIONS IN PARA 7 REFTEL.

(A) PRIMARY ROK OBJECTIVE IS TO MAINTAIN ITS CREDIBILITY
AS LEGITIMATE NATION IN WORLD COMMUNITY AND TO MAINTAIN
BETTER THAN OR AT MINIMUM EQUAL STATUS WITH NORTH KOREA
IN EYES OTHER NATIONS, AND IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES.
CURRENT DISCUSSIONS WITH ROKS INDICATE STRONG DESIRE
TO AVOID DISCUSSION OF KOREAN QUESTION IN UN, IF DISCUSSION
INEVITABLE, THEY WISH TO LIMIT DETRIMENTAL DOMESTIC

AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL EFFECTS BY WHATEVER
MEANS APPEARS MOST EFFECTIVE.

(B) U.S. HAS GREATEST IMPACT AND IN UN CONTEXT US
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POSITIONS AND SUPPORT ARE OF VITAL CONCERN TO KOREA.

JAPAN IS SECOND MOST INFLUENTIAL FOLLOWED BY MAJOR WESTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH HAVE MAJOR TRADE WITH KOREA AND/OR HAVE BEEN MAJOR SUPPORTERS ON KOREAN ISSUE IN UN. OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS HAVE SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT, AND IN COLLECTIVE SENSE ALL THIRD WORLD NATIONS WITH VOTES IN UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES AFFECT ROKG DECISIONS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES. OF COURSE, IN NEGATIVE SENSE NORTH KOREA AND ITS COMMUNIST SUPPORTERS' ACTIVITIES ALSO VITALLY AFFECT ROK. ROK IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH US AND OTHER KEY COUNTRIES HAS TO DATE MOUNTED SUBSTANTIAL, HIGHLY EFFECTIVE WORLDWIDE MULTILATERAL LOBBYING EFFORT ON ISSUES BEARING ON ITS COMPETITION WITH NORTH KOREA. ROK DOES NOT WIELD MAJOR INFLUENCE OVER OTHER NATIONS IN ANY REGIONAL BLOC ON ISSUES NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO KOREA.

(C) RK DELS ARE USUALLY FULLY INSTRUCTED, ALTHOUGH DELS TO INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS OTHER THAN UN SOMETIMES HAVE LESS THAN FULL INSTRUCTIONS. ROKG CAN USUALLY RETAIN EFFECTIVE CONTROL WHILE MEETINGS IN PROGRESS. REPORTING IS USUALLY SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT TIMELY AND REALISTIC INSTRUCTIONS.

(D) DELEGATES ALMOST NEVER HAVE SUFFICIENT INDEPENDENCE TO RESIST INSTRUCTIONS.

(E) ROKG IS NORMALLY VERY RECEPTIVE TO USG REPRESENTATIONS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES AND HAS NO DIFFICULTY ACCEPTING LINK WITH BILATERAL RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH RECENT DISCUSSIONS ON KOREAN DEBATE IN 31ST UNGA MAY INDICATE MORE INDEPENDENCE OF MIND IN THIS REGARD IN FUTURE. ROKG RELIES VERY HEAVILY ON USG SUPPORT IN INTERNATIONAL FORA.
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